

EDITORIAL CITY LIFE SECTION

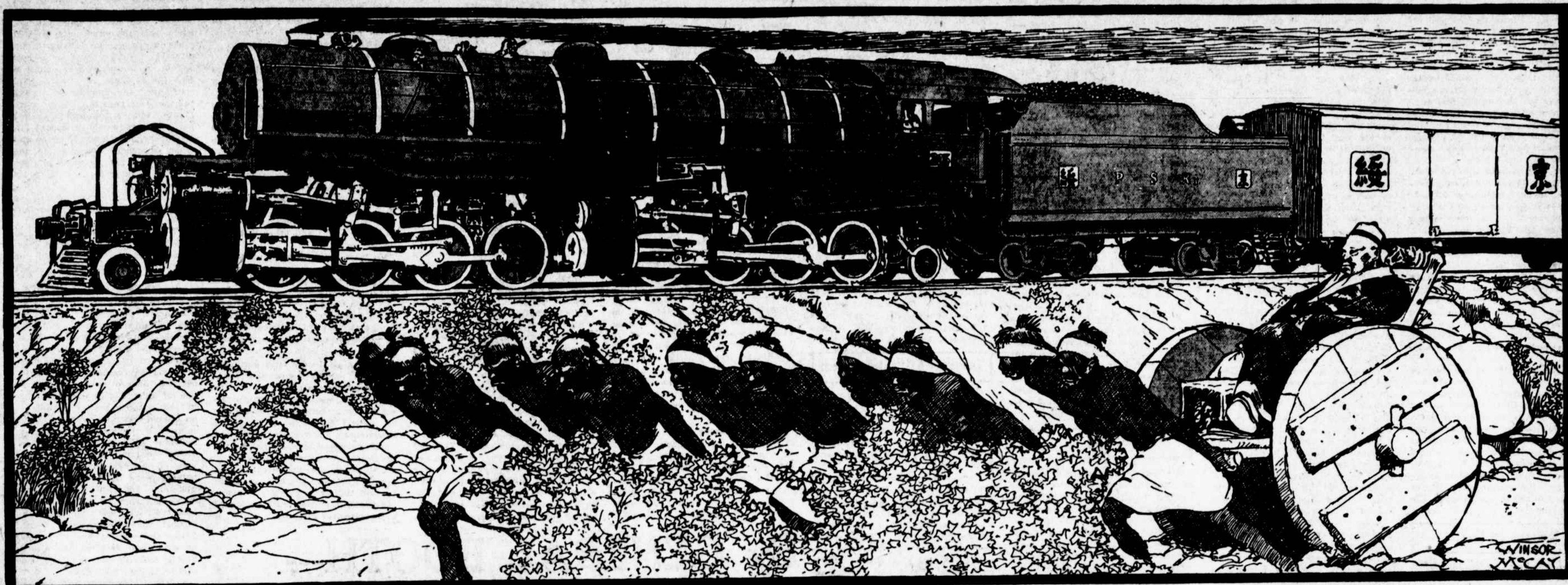
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A GIANT LOCOMOTIVE—AND CIVILIZATION



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MR. ANDREW FLETCHER, president of the American Locomotive Company, at the writer's request sending a photograph of the locomotive you see here, says most truly, "The power locked up in this giant machine, the power destined to free human beings from slavery, eventually will solve the MATERIAL problems of civilization."

Mr. Fletcher, whose company is manufacturing forty-seven locomotives, seven exactly like the one shown here, for the Pekin-Suiyuan Railway of China, emphasizes especially the fact that this railway was built entirely by the Chinese, not by European contractors or engineers. It is also operated and manned entirely by Chinese.

This means that to-day such men as you see in the lower part of the picture, with the front brain strapped to the wooden wagon of a Mandarin, are now free, body and brain, to manage magnificent machines and do with the pressure of one hand on the lever what could not be done by fifty thousand slaves.

Here you have, indeed, as Mr. Fletcher suggests, a most magnificent picture of civilization's progress.

Consider the giant pyramids, heavy, ugly, useless, foolish monuments piled above graves of Pharaohs and their families.

Slaves with their muscles and their bleeding hands pushed and rolled those giant blocks of stone, or, sweating under the load, carried the materials for their construction.

Now, as the modern steel structure is erected, you see an engine that feels no pain, lifting iron beams into the air rapidly, the mind and the muscle of man simply DIRECTING—no suffering, no struggling.

If you had gone to China a few years ago, when every passenger and every pound of freight was pulled as in the picture at the bottom, and if anybody had talked to you about civilizing China, you would have said, "First, take the load from the bodies of those men. Take those straps off their foreheads. FREE THE SLAVES—you cannot free the SPIRITS of a nation until you have freed their bodies."

This giant locomotive, emblem of man's power, thought and future civilization, represents that which will do the civilizing work. It is one of many proofs that man can set himself free BY THE POWER OF HIS BRAIN, doing that which no political system, no fine oratory, no philanthropy can accomplish.

As long as men of power and cunning need slaves harnessed to the load, they will HAVE those slaves. But they PREFER machines.

As long as the Rajah of India wanted cool air in his sleep he would have a slave girl awake all night pulling the rope of the fan that cooled his slumber.

But when you give this Chinese Mandarin his great Pullman car, his comfortable automobile, he sends away his slaves—they are too slow.

And when you give to the electric fan, he says, "Let the slave girl go to bed—I do not need my 'punkah.'"

This is a picture of the progress that will settle the world's problems. It represents scientific genius and mechanical skill that will free men from slavery, give all they need, make it UNNECESSARY for them to fight and murder each other.

Contrast these two methods of transporting freight in China—for the giant locomotive at the top, like the men below, are both carrying Chinese freight.

This magnificent locomotive is the biggest ever sent out of the United States, the largest used anywhere in the world outside of our boundaries.

Study it thoughtfully, comparing it with the men straining below, under insignificant loads. The giant locomotive is of the Mallet type, built for heavy freight. It weighs, completely equipped, 320 tons—640,000 pounds.

Little boys will count with interest the ten wheels on each side of the giant machine, twenty wheels in all. The length of the locomotive and tender is 94 feet 9 inches, almost half the ordinary city block. In proportion to the work it does, this machine represents lightness itself.

It could haul with ease at an even rate of speed, say twenty miles an hour, a total load of ten million pounds, in addition to its own weight—perhaps twice that load, certainly not less.

In a day it could haul such a load two hundred and fifty miles. To do the same work in the old-fashioned way, by Chinese man-power, over the rough roads of China, would have required half a million men—in other words, the work would have been impossible.

But if it HAD been possible, the man-power of half a million men pulling the load would have weighed seventy-five million pounds at least, against six hundred and forty thousand pounds for the locomotive.

What does this machine, this miracle born in the brain of man, mean to civilization? It means that steel and steam, that do not feel pain or grow tired, one solitary machine, could free from their load and their sufferings half a million men.

Consider how many machines of other kinds have been created, all working against slavery, although human meanness and brutality have also worked to fasten human beings as slaves to the machine.

You know the story of the Greek runner, carrying his message and dropping dead as he delivered it. Very beautiful. But much more beautiful is the little machine in which you drop a five-cent piece and send the message instantaneously. That's the telephone. It has freed millions of men that worked ceaselessly, as mere animated legs, using their vitality and spending their lives running at the bidding of others.

You may see in London in front of an old inn a picture of a tall man with a wand in hand, running ahead of a stage coach. It is "the sign of the running footman." Such a man ran in front of the rich man's

Above you see the modern method, a machine that with a couple of skilled mechanics is able to pull a load that could not be drawn by fifty thousand men. Below you see human beings fastened by forehead, chest or arms to the weight. There never COULD BE civilization while that lower picture lasts. And there WILL BE civilization when those that work get the full benefit of the machine at the top.

coach; if anything happened to horses or wheels he ran on ahead to tell about it. Now they telephone and ride in limousines.

The sewing machine has freed millions of women from the slavery of the needle as this locomotive frees the Chinese load-carriers from the band around their forehead. And that sewing machine has freed many a woman from a tighter band, AROUND HER HEART.

Women, it is true, have been made slaves of those same machines—young girls at this hour are harnessed to the machines speeded up by electricity and forced to go at a speed beyond their strength.

But at least the machine is there that CAN set them free. Their hours are not from the rising of the sun until after it sets. The "Song of the Shirt" could not be written now truthfully. That much has been done.

And do not for one moment doubt that every new machine made is a mile post on the road to civilization. Do not doubt that the time will come when the intelligence and benevolence of men will make machines the slaves and benefactors of the entire human race, no longer using them only to enrich a few, while making of others the slaves of machinery.

In many modern households electricity does the sweeping, washing and cooking. It cools rooms in summer, heats them in winter, carries messages to the butcher. In a short time the power that men once knew only as a deadly thing, flashing in the sky, will have been made the servant of every human being. That will be another step toward civilization.

Machinery will give men all they need. And when they all have ENOUGH, they will stop fighting each other. You know how different tribes of North American Indians butchered and tortured each other ordinarily. Yet, at a certain time of year, fish in great numbers, millions upon millions, were to be had in the Niagara River. Then Indians of many languages and many hatreds gathered there to catch and eat the fish, in a truce of plenty, not disturbing each other. THERE WAS ENOUGH FOR ALL.

Machinery will provide enough for all—drain swamps, irrigate deserts, plow, harrow, plant the land, will light country roads and build them. Electricity's power sent to flying machines without wires from the earth will transport men from their pleasant work in the valleys to their homes on the mountains.

No man, with as much imagination as a screech

owl, will say that this is dreaming. For what greater dream could there have been two hundred years ago than the picture before you?

Suppose you had shown this picture to a Mandarin a hundred years ago and had told him that one day such a machine would do the work of half a million coolies. He would have thought you crazy.

Some foolishly ask, "What about over-population? If there is enough for everybody, if none die from hunger, or war, if plagues are wiped out, what will happen when the earth becomes so thickly populated that men will have no room to stand on it?"

That foolish question, often asked, is answered sufficiently by the ancient German, saying, "God sees to it that the trees do not grow into the heavens."

The wisdom of Nature takes care of population. Henry George, answering the same question, said that if you watched a puppy's tail grow you might say to yourself, "That tail is growing so fast that by the time the pup is full grown the tail will be three times as long as the dog."

But that doesn't happen—at the right time the tail stops growing.

At the right time population stops growing. AND THE HIGHER THE RACE THE FEWER THE CHILDREN. An elephant has two or three young ones in fifty years. It is the most highly developed of all mammals except man. A mouse has half a dozen young ones, or more, every little while.

As men become civilized they will know how to regulate population, without murdering each other or drowning babies, as is still done in some barbarous countries.

Our readers will thank Mr. Fletcher, president of the American Locomotive Company, for this interesting picture. And please observe that this great locomotive is not a mechanical blessing sent to the Chinese by a superior race. THE CHINESE ARE ALSO A SUPERIOR RACE. They have been thinkers for four thousand years. They are intelligent, alert.

Mr. Fletcher tells you that the Chinese run and build their railroads. And Chinese mechanical genius shared in making the locomotive in this picture.

Mr. K. Y. Kwong, engineer-in-chief, and Mr. S. T. Wang, of the Pekin-Suiyuan Railway, helped design this locomotive. Mr. Kwong is as able an engineer as any in this country.

Interesting to many American railroad firemen straining their backs shoveling coal is the fact that this locomotive for China will make work easier for the Chinese railway men than it is for the average American railroad man. This giant machine is equipped with Elvin automatic mechanical stokers, which save firemen the hardest work. It has every possible labor-saving and safety device.

Show this picture to your boys and girls, talk to them in a way that will make them THINK ABOUT IT.

Here is the solution of humanity's problem—ENOUGH FOR ALL—the slaves set free and after that civilized life on a planet where human beings need no longer kill each other to get food, land or freedom.